

for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RICE UNIVERSITY—HOUSTON, TEXAS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, late one summer night a few years ago, I boarded a red-eye flight back to Houston. I saw college students on the plane, and I expected the worst. I was wrong, however. As soon as the plane took off, these athletes broke out their books, and they studied for the rest of the flight. I was impressed by this group of considerate, smart, focused, and driven student athletes. No surprise, they were the Owls baseball team from Rice University.

Rice was named after Massachusetts-born businessman William Marsh Rice, a transplanted Yankee who was successful in Houston, Texas. He chartered the Rice Institute. Today, Rice University is the home of 5,000 students. Its achievements make Houston proud—artificial heart research, structural chemical analysis, and space science, just to name a few. And the Rice Owls baseball team gives Houston a baseball team we can be proud of. And just yesterday, Rice was named one of the top 100 universities in the world by the Center for World University Rankings.

I want to congratulate Rice president, Dr. Leebron, his wonderful educators, and his students for an amazing 100 years of excellence and education.

And that's just the way it is.

STUDENT VETERANS ACADEMIC COUNSELING ENHANCEMENT ACT

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. After returning from Iraq, John started college. He didn't pick a major right away, instead, exploring different subjects. But he struggled. It was hard for him to focus; and after what he had been through, he couldn't relate to his classmates. Soon, he had used up his GI Bill benefits and couldn't afford to graduate.

What John's story tells us is that even though we vigorously train our soldiers, we give veterans little guidance to succeed in school. So I'm introducing the Student Veterans Academic Counseling Enhancement Act, endorsed by the American Legion, the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This bill provides regular one-on-one academic counseling to GI Bill students no matter where they go to school, and it tracks veteran graduation rates to help ensure academic and career success. This Student Veterans Act will ensure taxpayer dollars are spent responsibly, while helping veterans graduate and get good jobs. We owe it to those who have sacrificed so much for us, our veterans.

REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

(Mr. BENISHEK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BENISHEK. Madam Speaker, in upholding the President's health care law, the Supreme Court identified the law as a \$675 billion tax increase on America's working families and reminds us that we cannot depend on courts to fix the mistakes that Congress has made.

I know something about health care. I've been a doctor for 30 years taking care of patients in northern Michigan. I know the President's plan is not solving our health care problems. In fact, it's making them worse.

The law hurts seniors by cutting more than \$500 billion from Medicare. The law creates a board of 15 Washington bureaucrats to decide how to reduce Medicare costs. The law contains more than 13,000 pages of new regulations that will suffocate our small businesses.

The President's law never addressed rising health care costs. America has a great health care system, but the problem is it costs too much. I recommend we enact a step-by-step approach that lowers cost through free market competition and strengthens the doctor-patient relationship.

The American people have been clear—they don't like this terrible law. I urge all Members to support the Repeal of Obamacare Act, so we can scrap this law and work together on real health care reforms that actually lower costs and make health care more affordable.

LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Leadership Alliance.

The Leadership Alliance, established by Brown University in 1992, is a national academic consortium of leading research universities and minority-serving institutions with the mission of developing underrepresented students into outstanding leaders and role models in academia, business, and the public sector.

Through an organized program of research, networking, and mentorship at critical transitions along the entire academic training pathway, the Leadership Alliance prepares young scientists and scholars for graduate training and professional apprenticeships.

To date, the consortium has mentored more than 2,600 undergraduates, including 33 Rhode Islanders. Brown University has mentored 386 Leadership Alliance participants, 35 percent of whom have received a graduate-level degree.

I am proud to stand in support of this initiative that identifies, trains, and

mentors talented underrepresented and underserved students.

I congratulate and commend the Leadership Alliance, including Brown University, for 20 years of mentoring a diverse and competitive research and scholarly workforce.

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REPEAL OBAMACARE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, in 2009, President Obama rightly said, "The last thing you want to do is raise taxes in the middle of a recession." Yet the President's signature legislative achievement, ObamaCare, hinges on 21 separate tax increases, 12 of which hit the middle class.

ObamaCare and its taxes have already proved crushing to the economy, along with broken promises to spur job creation, reduce debt, cut premium costs, and allow patients to keep their coverage and physicians. Family premiums are up over \$1,000, 20 million people are at risk of losing the doctors they like, 48 percent of businesses aren't hiring to brace for rising health costs, and by 2021, the CBO estimates there will be 800,000 fewer jobs because of ObamaCare.

The job of Congress is not to defend failure. ObamaCare makes it harder for job creators to hire and fails in its most basic objectives. Thus, we have a duty to spare the American people from its \$1.76 trillion bill by fully repealing this legislation.

NOMINATION OF JOHN T. FOWLKES, JR. TO THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT OF WESTERN TENNESSEE

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, yesterday the United States Senate approved the nomination of President Obama, upon my recommendation, of John T. Fowlkes, Jr. to be the new Federal District Court Judge in the Western District of Tennessee. It was a moment of bipartisanship, where Senators McCONNELL and REID worked to get the nomination up, and my Republican Senators, CORKER and ALEXANDER, sponsored and supported that nomination.

Judge Fowlkes is an outstanding jurist and was an astounding attorney. He was a public defender, a State prosecutor, a Federal prosecutor, a chief administrative officer for our county government, and a current criminal court judge.

I empaneled a group of lawyers—bipartisan, just about every representation you can imagine—to advise me on the person to recommend. Everybody felt John Fowlkes had the temperament and disposition, judicial experience, and was the right person for the job.